

## REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 17-25 are pending herein, with Claims 1 and 25 being independent claims. Claims 1-6, 9-14, and 17-25 are rejected. Claims 7 and 8 are objected to. Claims 31-39 were withdrawn from consideration.

### **35 U.S.C. § 103:**

Claims 1, 4-6, 9, 10, 12-14, 17-21, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 44 45 436 in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,735,133 to Paoletti. In response to the previous office action, the Applicant amended the independent claims to indicate that the mixture nozzle is tapered. This taper allows the fluids to mix and expand as they travel down the mixing area. The mixing area D of Paoletti is shown as being complete circular and tubular. The Examiner, however, takes the position that apparently the end of the tube is tapered. The Applicant thus has amended the independent claims to recite "an outward" taper. As described above, the purpose of the tapered mixing area is to allow the fluids to mix and expand. Such is not possible in the inward taper shown in Paoletti.

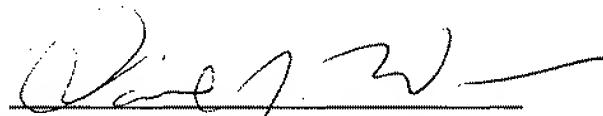
Claims 2, 3, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the art as applied above, and in further view of Hourizadeh. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for the reasons described above.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the art as described above in further view of Detsch. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for the reason described above.

**CONCLUSION**

The Applicant believes that it has responded to each matter raised in the Office Action. Allowance of all claims is respectfully solicited. Any questions may be directed to the undersigned at 1.404.853.8028.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel J. Warren  
Reg. No. 34,272

**SUTHERLAND ASBILL & BRENNAN LLP**

999 Peachtree Street, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3996  
(404) 853-8000  
(404) 853-8806 (Facsimile)  
[daniel.warren@sablaw.com](mailto:daniel.warren@sablaw.com)

SAB Docket No. 25040-0912